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REPORT OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE (PRC)
SUB-COMMITTEE ON NEPAD
FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2018

REPORT OF THE PRC SUB-COMMITTEE ON NEPAD JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2018

INTRODUCTION

1. The PRC Sub-Committee on NEPAD is one of the PRC Sub-Committees that comprises fifteen (15) member states on the basis of three (3) per region, with a mandate to advise the PRC on NEPAD related issues as enshrined in its Terms of Reference (TORs). The Sub-Committee is currently chaired by His. Excellency Hermann Immongault, Ambassador of the Republic of Gabon and Permanent Representative to the African Union.

2. During the period under review, the PRC Sub-Committee on NEPAD was under the Chairmanship of the Republic of Botswana (1st Vice Chairperson) up until August, 2018, when the Republic of Gabon (Chairperson) assumed the Chairpersonship of the Sub-Committee. In this period, the Sub-Committee on NEPAD focused on the modalities for the implementation of Assembly Decision AU/Dec.635 (XXVIII) of January 2017 which was adopted during the 28th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, which transforms the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency into an African Union Development Agency, within the framework of the African Union Institutional Reforms.

3. Further to, the Sub-Committee also considered the modalities for the implementation of Assembly Decision AU/Dec.691 (XXXI) of Nouakchott (2018) and Assembly Decision AU/Dec.685 of Addis Ababa (2018) which focusses on the establishment of the African Union Development Agency (AUDA), through among other things, contribution to the development of a draft mandate for AUDA for submission and adoption at the November 2018 Extraordinary Summit held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. To this end, the Sub-Committee engaged with the technical team from the NEPAD Agency, on modalities for the development of the draft mandate.

4. Related to this, the Sub-Committee, within the framework of the African Union Institutional Reforms and in particular, the NEPAD Reform, considered its Terms of Reference (TORs) to support and guide its operations in general and its contribution to the reform process in particular.

5. Lastly but not the least, the Sub-Committee also focussed its attention on the implementation of its previous recommendations from the period of 2016 – 2018, which ranged from its working visit to the NEPAD Agency in Midrand in April, 2016 and a retreat with the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency in May 2018.

6. This report is a recapitulation of the activities of the Sub-Committee, the challenges encountered, and the recommendations on the way forward.

SUMMARY OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 2018

7. Based on the Assembly Decisions AU/Dec.635(January 2017),) AU/Dec.685

(January 2018) and AU/Dec.691(July 2018), and within the framework of the African Union Institutional Reforms, the Sub-Committee held its 13th meeting on 1st March, 2018; 14th meeting on 9th April, 2018, its 15th Meeting on 10th September, 2018, and its 16th meeting on 25th October 2018 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to discuss, among other issues, the modalities for the implementation of the decision to transform the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency into the African Union Development Agency. The Sub-Committee also considered the status of implementation of previous recommendations of the Sub-Committee, the Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee, and the work plan for the year 2018. The abovementioned meetings were preceded by preparatory meetings of the Bureau of the Sub-Committee.

8. Additionally, the Sub-Committee held an interaction with a technical team from the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), and were briefed on the work currently being done with regards to the implementation of Assembly Decision 691 on AUDA with particular focus on the mandate of AUDA and the division of labour between AUDA/NEPAD, AUC and the RECs.

9. In the course of its deliberations, the Sub Committee was conscious of the fact that the governance structures of AUDA/NEPAD have been determined by the Assembly and therefore the PRC through its Sub Committee could not participate in the meetings of the Steering Committee as a member but rather as observer. In this regard the Sub Committee recommended that the issue of participation of the Sub Committee in the meetings of the Steering Committee as observer be clearly stated in the statutes and Rules of Procedure of AUDA/NEPAD.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

10. Deriving from the deliberations of its various meetings during the reporting period, the Sub-Committee proposes that the PRC recommends to the Executive Council to:

- a) **Approve** of the participation two representatives of the PRC Sub-Committee on NEPAD in the meetings of the NEPAD Steering Committee as observers, namely the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee and another member of the Bureau;
- b) **Endorse** the full and continuous involvement of the Sub-Committee in the on-going process of the transformation of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency into the African Union Development Agency.

I. Joint Retreat of the Sub-Committee on NEPAD with the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency: Durban, South Africa.

11. A joint retreat between the Sub-Committee and the NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency was also held from 28th – 29th May, 2018. The main objective of the Retreat was to develop a common understanding on the NEPAD activities and delivery process, and to review its programmatic interventions and impacts on the member

States and African citizens.

12. The retreat also offered an opportunity to consider the modalities of implementing Assembly Decision 635 on the transformation of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency into the African Union Development Agency, and the effective and supportive role of the Sub-Committee during the transformation process.

13. Additionally, the retreat offered a platform for effective interaction between the Sub-Committee, the NEPAD Agency and AUC Departments.

14. Lastly, it contributed to enhancement, collaboration and synergy in the work of the AUC Departments and AUDA/NEPAD. In this regard, the retreat observed that although commendable progress has been made in the collaboration between the AUC departments and NEPAD Agency, there is still room for improvement especially with respect to joint planning.

15. The main outcome of the retreat was a detailed and comprehensive report with recommendations and concrete proposals on actions to be undertaken by the key stakeholders, namely AUDA/NEPAD, the AUC and the Member States. Some of the recommendations have been fully implemented while others are in the process of implementation. Secondly, a good understanding of NPCA's programmatic intervention in response to Member State's priorities was achieved. Thirdly, a better understanding by all key stakeholders of the ongoing AU institutional reform process was also obtained. Lastly, but equally significant, was the identification of the key challenges facing NPCA and collective reflection on solutions to overcome these challenges. .

Recommendations:

16. The Sub-Committee proposes that the PRC recommends to the Executive Council to:

- a) **Stress** the need for the technical aspects of AUDA to be guided by the principles of flexibility, a learning organization, smartness, efficiency and effectiveness, results orientation , focus on implementation, and building synergies with RECs;
- b) **Further Stress** the need to provide AUDA with the appropriate resources in terms of financial, human resource, management systems, and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms;
- c) **Endorse** the institutionalization of the Annual meeting of AUC-AUDA/NEPAD Directors

II. Consideration of the Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee

17. During its meetings of 1st March 2018, 10th September, 2018, and 25th October 2018, the Sub-Committee considered its Terms of Reference (TORs) under the guidance of the Office of the Legal Counsel, with a view to clearly define the role of the Sub-

Committee to fully support NPCA as it transforms into an AU Development Agency.

Recommendations:

18. The Sub-Committee proposes that the PRC:
- a) **Adopts** the Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee on NEPAD and recommend to the Executive Council to take note of the Terms of Reference.

III. The Briefing by the CEO of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency to the Permanent Representatives Committee

19. A briefing by Dr Ibrahim Mayaki, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency took place at the Medium Conference Hall of the AUCC on Friday, 8th June 2018, on the margins of the June/July Summit preparatory sessions of the PRC.

20. The objectives of the briefing were to provide and receive feedback on the Agency's milestones and impacts delivered at continental, regional and national spheres; highlight the 2018 to 2023 medium term plan designed in response to priorities of Member States and Agenda 2063 FTYIP within the context of continental and global challenges and opportunities; and, provide an update on the technical progress made towards the creation of the AU Development Agency in the context of the AU reforms, to receive guidance and recommendations from the Member States. The briefing was well received and participants requested for more of such interactions.

Recommendations:

21. The PRC Sub-Committee on NEPAD proposes that the PRC recommends to the Executive Council to:
- a) **Endorse** the institutionalization of the briefing by the CEO of NPCA to the PRC on a bi-annual basis.

CHALLENGES

22. During its 2018 activities and in the discharge of its mandate, the following challenges were encountered and impeded the work of the Sub-Committee:

- a) Absence of a platform of interface with the NEPAD Governance Structure, particularly the NEPAD Steering Committee. The existence of parallel reporting mechanisms within the AU policy organs; and the NEPAD governance structure;
- b) Acute shortage of staff in the NEPAD Coordination Unit, which is the secretariat of the NEPAD Sub-Committee.

Recommendations:

23. The PRC Sub-Committee on NEPAD proposes that the PRC recommends to the Executive Council to:

- a) **Request** the Commission to address the issue of staffing within the NEPAD Coordination Unit, by filling the three (3) vacant positions as a matter of priority, without prejudice to the ongoing AU institutional reform process.

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Annex

**DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE
PRC SUB-COMMITTEE ON NEPAD**

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE PRC SUBCOMMITTEE ON NEPAD

Background

1. The New Partnership for Africa's Development (**NEPAD**) is an African developmental agenda/programme presented to African leaders at the OAU Summit in Lusaka in July 2001 and endorsed by declaration 1(XXXVII). The fundamental objective of NEPAD is to eradicate poverty and promote sustainable development on the African continent in a manner that is consistent with the objectives and principles of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and emphasizes its social, economic and environmental dimensions. It also seeks to deepen Africa's integration into the global environment and markets by implementation of development-oriented foreign investment flow and effective interventions in institutions of global governance.

2. The Lusaka Summit also adopted the NEPAD Framework; and at the inaugural Summit of the African Union in July 2002 in Durban, South Africa, the Assembly adopted a Declaration on the Implementation of NEPAD [**Assembly/AU/Decl.1(I)**]. The Declaration encouraged Member States to implement the Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic and Corporate Governance [**AHG/235(XXXVIII)**] and to accede to the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), a voluntary mechanism aimed at ensuring that the policies and practices of participating states conform to the agreed political, economic and corporate governance values, codes and standards.

3. Recalling Assembly Decisions AU/Dec.635 of January 2017, AU/Dec.685 of January 2018 and AU/Dec.691 of July 2018, on the transformation of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (**NPCA**) into the African Union Development Agency (**AUDA**), within the framework of the African Union Institutional Reforms. In this regard, the PRC through the Sub-Committee on NEPAD has an important role to play in the transformation of NPCA to AUDA in particular and the AU Reform process in general.

4. Given the importance attached to the broad developmental issues that NEPAD encompasses and the fact that it is a programme of the AU, the PRC decided to establish a Sub-Committee, comprising of fifteen (15) elected members (three per region) specifically to deal with NEPAD related issues.

5. The mandate of the PRC Sub Committee shall be as follows:

- i. Advise the PRC as appropriate, on courses of action to be taken to enhance the implementation of AUDA/NEPAD programmes at national, regional and continental levels;
- ii. Monitor the progress made in the implementation of the strategic plan towards the effective promotion of AUDA/NEPAD at national, sub-regional, regional and international level, priority areas and policy guidelines outlined in the plan of action for its implementation; ;
- iii. Contribute, in collaboration with the African Union Commission and NEPAD Agency, to the ongoing process of the transformation of the NPCA into AUDA and its effective establishment and functioning;

- iv. Monitor and assist the AUDA/NEPAD towards achieving the goals enshrined in both AU Agenda 2063 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs);
- v. Follow up on the implementation of the decisions of the Assembly on AUDA/NEPAD resulting from the conclusions of the Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC);
- vi. Together with the Commission and AUDA/NEPAD, devise strategies and advocate for the effective implementation of Programmes and Projects of AUDA/NEPAD;
- vii. Support the functioning and activities of the NEPAD governance Structures for full ownership of the AU development agenda by Member States;
- viii. Sensitize and draw attention of Member States to the need to ensure the Principles of rotation are abided by, for inclusivity within the AUDA/NEPAD governance Structures;
- ix. Take part as observers in the NEPAD Steering Committee through the participation of two representatives of the Bureau of the Sub Committee namely; the Chairperson of the PRC Sub Committee and another member of the Bureau,
- x. Propose to AUDA/NEPAD priority areas/sectors and continental programmes that could reverse Africa's marginalization and lay a basis for sustainable long term development;
- xi. In collaboration with the Commission and AUDA/NEPAD, devise ways and means of mobilizing resources for the implementation of the policies, programmes and projects of NEPAD/AUDA;
- xii. Consider the draft budget of the AUDA/NEPAD prior to the Sub-Committee on General Supervision and Coordination on Budgetary, Financial and Administrative Matters;
- xiii. Receive regular updates from the AUDA/NEPAD on its activities, so as to in turn brief the PRC on the activities of the Agency;
- xiv. Report periodically to the PRC on activities undertaken in the implementation of the above TORs;

6. Output

- i. Annual or periodic reports of the work of the Sub-Committee prepared and submitted to the PRC;
- ii. Good working relations and flow of information between PRC, NEPAD/AUDA and Commission established;
- iii. Full integration of AUDA/NEPAD into the AU Structures and processes, and contribution to the process of transforming the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency into the African Union Development Agency (AUDA), and the actual establishment and functioning of AUDA.

7. Final Provisions

- i. **Amendments**

These terms of reference may be amended as need arises by a two thirds majority of members of the Sub Committee.

ii. **Entry into force**

These terms of reference shall enter into force upon their adoption by the PRC.

**DRAFT DECISION ON THE
REPORTS OF THE PRC SUB COMMITTEES**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Reports of the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC) Sub Committees;

I. PRC SUB-COMMITTEE ON NEPAD

2. **APPROVES** as follows:
 - a) The participation of two representatives of the PRC sub-committee on NEPAD in the meetings of the NEPAD Steering Committee as observers namely; the Chairperson of the PRC sub-committee and another member of the Bureau.
 - b) The full and continuous involvement of the PRC sub-committee in the on-going process of the transformation of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency into an African Union Development Agency (AUDA);
 - c) The institutionalisation of the Annual meeting of AUC – AUDA/NEPAD Directors;
 - d) The institutionalisation of the briefing by the CEO of AUDA/NEPAD to the PRC on a bi-annual basis;
3. **TAKES NOTE** of the Terms of the PRC Sub Committee on NEPAD;
4. **STRESSES** the need for the technical aspects of AUDA/NEPAD to be guided by the principles of flexibility, a learning organisation, smartness, efficiency and effectiveness, results oriented, focussed on implementation and in synergy with the RECS;
5. **FURTHER STRESSES** the need to provide AUDA/NEPAD with the appropriate resources (human and financial), management systems, and a monitoring and evaluation mechanism;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to address the issue of staffing within the NEPAD Coordination Unit as a matter of priority by filling the three vacant positions in the unit without prejudice to the ongoing AU institutional reform process.

2019-03-07

Report of the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC) Sub-committee on NEPAD for the Period January to December 2018

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